

Newsletter

November/December 2015

Hartstene Pointe Water-**Sewer District**

(360) 427-2413 772 Chesapeake Dr. Shelton, WA 98584

Email: info@hpwatersewer.com Website: hpwatersewer.com

General Manager/Water Manager: Mont Jeffreys gm@hpwatersewer.com

Acct. and Admin. Services Manager: Miceal Carnahan acct@hpwatersewer.com

Commissioners:

Mary Alice Cary

Commissioner2@hpwatersewer.com Nancy Nelson

Commissioner1@hpwatersewer.com

Roger Ray

Commissioner3@hpwatersewer.com

Billing Address

PO Box 94453 Seattle, WA 98124-6753

Pay Online

hpwatersewer.com

Billing Office Hours

Mondays: 9:00 am-2:00 pm Tuesdays: 9:00 am—12:00 pm Thursdays: 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 1 pm in the District Office. All meetings are open to the public.

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District is not associated with or governed by the Hartstene Pointe Maintenance Association. Please direct water-sewer service related questions to the District.

Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

New Billing Office Hours

As of September 21st the District has adopted new billing office hours: Mondays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Tuesdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. If you call outside of these hours you may leave a message to receive a return call. You may also send billing questions via email to acct@hpwatersewer.com.

Also, you may now make your payment at our website, hpwatersewer.com. Just click the "Pay Now" button at the top of the home page.

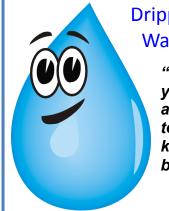
Commissioner Nancy Nelson Resigning, New Commissioner to Be Appointed

At the October 22, 2015 regular meeting of the Hartstene Pointe Water-Sewer District Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Nancy Nelson submitted her resignation effective November 20, 2015. Commissioner Nelson is moving to Montana to be near family. The Board and staff would like to thank Commissioner Nelson for her four years of service to the District and to the community as a District commissioner.

In accordance with state law, the remaining commissioners will have 90 days from Commissioner Nelson's resignation to appoint a qualified individual to fulfill the remaining two years of the unexpired term. A qualified individual is someone residing within the District who is registered to vote in the District.

The Board invites qualified applicants to submit letters of interest no later than December 10th for consideration. The Board will review the letters of interest in an open public meeting, choose up to five applicants for interviews, and interview those applicants in open public meeting before appointing the new Commissioner.

For more information, please call the District Office, (360) 427-2413 or send and email to info@hpwatersewer.com.



Drippy the Droplet's Water-Saving Tip:

> "Remember to winterize your pipes. Make sure that all outdoor spigots are winterized; this could help keep pipes from freezing, bursting, and losing water."

Watch for more of Drippy's tips in future newsletters and on the District website, hpwatersewer.com.

Proposed 2016 Budget and Water Rate Increase, Annual Budget Hearing

On Saturday, November 7th at 10:00 am at the HPMA clubhouse, 202 E Pointes Drive West, the District will hold its Annual Budget Hearing to present the proposed 2016 annual budget. This budget was developed to further the District's mission of providing high quality, reliable water, sewer collection, and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates to meet the current and future needs of our community.

Unlike other municipal governments, special purpose water and sewer districts are not legally mandated to submit or approve an annual budget. However, under the forward-looking direction of the Board of Commissioners, the District has developed and used the budget process as a planning tool for the future. Over the past two years the District has included five-year projections in its budget considerations in an effort to anticipate the needs of the District, not only for the upcoming fiscal year, but for the foreseeable future.

The District has been working to keep expenditures low while ensuring equipment and infrastructure are in good repair and meet new and increasing state and federal regulations. Due to ongoing efforts to address deferred mainte-

nance and capital improvements, as well as increasing debt service, there is a projected net loss of \$167,000 for 2016 at the current rates. Additionally, the District's sewer revenues have been greatly subsidizing the water system, necessitating a rate adjustment to better reflect the actual costs to operate and maintain the water system and sewer system respectively. For these reasons the District Board of Commissioners is proposing an 86% increase to the water rates and a 23% decrease to the sewer rates, resulting in a cumulative 14% overall rate increase for 2016. This would be the first rate adjustment in five years. The Board is also proposing an increase in Capital Facilities Charges and Connection Fees for new service connections from \$4,200 to \$4,600.

Subscribers are encouraged to attend the Annual Budget Hearing to receive information about the proposed budget and rate adjustment, as well as to ask questions and provide comments. For the full 2016 proposed budget you may visit the District website, hpwatersewer.com.

